

D-791
Henry C. Patchett Building, No. 1
Cambridge
c. 1905
Private

The Henry C. Patchett Building, No. 1, dating to the early years of the 20th century, was designed and built in a largely utilitarian fashion capitalizing on a relatively small footprint with three times the floor space in this tall, narrow proportioned structure. The stretcher and common bond brick commercial block is decorated on its Race Street façade with an early example of parged concrete decoration. Arched panels above each window unit are enhanced with an incised sunburst design scored in the concrete surface. The top of the three-story structure has been rebuilt during the first quarter of the 20th century with a decorative corbelled brick parapet.

Henry C. Patchett is documented as the one responsible for financing the construction of this pair of three-story commercial blocks on Race Street south of the Grace United Methodist Church. (See also S-792) The buildings were erected on a single residential lot that had been improved since the late nineteenth century by a dwelling, as depicted on the Sanborn Insurance map issued in 1901. By the time the newly issued map was printed in 1906, these two towering storefronts had been built. A hardware store occupied this block at the time. Following the death of Henry C. Patchett, the building was sold to wholesale grocer E. Milton Skinner in 1917. A painted advertisement of the Skinner wholesale grocery survives on the side wall of the adjacent Patchett block at 507 Race Street.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of

Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-791

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Henry C. Patchett Building, No. 1

other Montgomery Ward Store

2. Location

street and number 505 Race Street not for publication

city, town Cambridge vicinity

county Dorchester

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name H. Gage Thomas

street and number P. O. Box 404 telephone 410-

city, town Cambridge state MD zip code 21613

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber MLB 466 folio 445

city, town Cambridge tax map 301 tax parcel 4534 tax ID number 7-133928

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- ☐ Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	1
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Noncontributing
			buildings
			sites
			structures
			objects
			Total
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. D-791

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Henry C. Patchett Building No. 1, also known during its history as the E. M. Skinner & Brother or later, the Montgomery Ward Store stands at 505 Race Street in the central business district of Cambridge, Dorchester County, Maryland. The tall three-story, three-bay by seven-bay stretcher and common bond brick store building is one of two structures initially financed by Henry C. Patchett as a hardware store around 1905.¹ Built similarly to the structure immediately to the south (See D-792), the tall narrow proportions of the store building capitalized on a small footprint with triple the floor space. Designed in a utilitarian fashion, the stretcher bond main façade has a altered first floor storefront, and single-pane sash windows that light the upper floors. The second, third, and attic window units are topped by an unusual arched panel inset with a scored concrete parging incised with a stylized sunburst design in radiating lines. The window units have parged brick sills. The top of the gable roofed building is finished with a rebuilt brick parapet of decorative corbelled brickwork. The building is currently vacant.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Henry C. Patchett Building, No. 1, also known during its history as the E. M. Skinner & Bro. Wholesale Grocery, or later the Montgomery Ward Store, is located at 505 Race Street in the central business district of Cambridge, Dorchester County, Maryland. Built around 1905, the three-story, seven-bay rectangular brick commercial block has a stretcher bond front and six-course common bond side walls. Attached to the back of the building is a single-story concrete block wing of modern date.

The east (main) elevation has an altered first floor front of modern materials, whereas the upper two floors and attic remain essentially intact. The second floor level is marked by three single-pane sash windows topped by arched rowlock decorative panels featuring a thin concrete parging incised with a radiating sunburst pattern. The window unit is slightly inset from the outer plane of the stretcher bond brick façade. The brick windows sills are parged as well. The third floor windows are finished in the same fashion. Piercing the top of the storefront is smaller squarish proportioned window with a flatter segmental rowlock arched panel filled with a scored concrete parging. The top of the parapet wall is finished with corbelled brickwork, which was rebuilt during the early 20th century as evidence by the shift in color and texture of the brick. The parapet wall disguises the gable roof form of the store building.

¹ Sanborn Insurance Maps, 1901 and 1906, The 1901 maps indicates the site was improved by a two-and-a-half story dwelling, but by the time the 1906 map was printed the lot was improved by two three-story commercial blocks, the northern one housing a hardware store and the other a wholesale grocery, Library of Congress.

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Name Henry C. Patchett Store Building No. 1
Continuation Sheet

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The sides of the commercial block are laid in six-course common bond, and the walls rise to a corbelled brick cornice under the roofline. Single pane window units define the first floor and are spanned by segmental brick arches. The window openings are protected by vertical iron bars. In the central portion of the first floor elevation is a freight entrance spanned by a triple rowlock arch. The second and third floors are lighted by single pane sash windows spanned by segmental brick arches.

The rear (west) wall is partially covered by a single-story concrete block wing of modern construction. The balance of the wall is defined by an asymmetrical fenestration of single-pane sash windows or bricked up window openings. The first, second, and third floor window units have segmental brick jack arches, whereas a bricked up window unit in the gable end is spanned by a flat jack arch. The edge of the gable roof is finished flush.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-791

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Henry C. Patchett Store Building, No. 1, dating to the early years of the 20th century, was designed and built in a largely utilitarian fashion capitalizing on a relatively small footprint with three times the floor space in the tall, narrow proportioned structure. The stretcher and common bond brick commercial block is decorated on its Race Street façade with an early example of parged concrete decoration. Arched panels above each window unit are enhanced with an incised sunburst pattern in the concrete surface. The top of the three-story commercial block has been rebuilt during the first quarter of the 20th century with a decorative corbelled brickwork design.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Henry C. Patchett is documented as the one responsible for financing the construction of this pair of three-story brick commercial blocks on Race Street south of the Grace M. E. Church. The buildings were erected on a single lot that had been improved by a two-and-a-half story frame dwelling by the late 19th century, as depicted on the 1901 Sanborn Insurance map.² By the time the newly issued map was printed in 1906, these two towering storefronts had been built with a hardware business occupying this block. Following the death of Henry C. Patchett, the building was sold to wholesale grocer E. Milton Skinner in 1917.³ A painted advertisement of the Skinner business survives on the side wall of the adjacent Patchett block at 507 Race Street.

² Sanborn Insurance Map, 1901, Library of Congress.

³ Dorchester County Land Record, 229/211, Dorchester County Courthouse.

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Name Henry C. Patchett Building (W. R. Hearne & Son Building, Engle's Furniture & Appliances)
Continuation Sheet

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Henry C. Patchett Building No. 1
505 Race Street
Cambridge, Dorchester County, Maryland
Map 301, Parcel 4534

MLB 466/445

Robert W. Peters and Bonnie M. Peters

to

11.30.2001

H. Gage Thomas

\$84,900

Lot No. 1, Beginning for the outlines of the same on the south side of a Stone planted in the alley hereinafter described, which said alley is located between the two brick store houses occupied by W. R. Hearne & Son and E. M. Skinner & Brother, respectively, (now Engle's Furniture and Appliances, Inc. and Montgomery Ward & Co.)

Lot No. 2, All that lot, tract or piece of land situated on the northwest side of Race Street, in the town, county, and state aforesaid, immediately in the rear of the lot of land hereinafter described as Lot No. 1, TOGETHER with a Right-of-way as an appurtenance to each of the lots of land described as Lot No. 1 and Lot No. 2 respectively, over the above mentioned alley, which said alley is 10 feet wide throughout its entire length, is located between the two brick store buildings erected by the late Henry C. Patchett, one of which is owned by William Engle and the other is the one which is hereby being conveyed, and extends from Race Street...and also appears in the supplementary map of the real estate of the late Henry C. Patchett made by J. Watson Thompson, surveyor,...and as particularly set forth in the deed from J. Watson Thompson and others, trustees, and William R. Hearne and wife, to E. Milton Skinner, dated October 17, 1917, and recorded in Liber WHM 3, Folio 773; The improvements on the above described property is known and designated as No. 505 Race Street....

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Continuation Sheet

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229/211

Middleton Train and Audrey C. Train

to

12.30.1983

Robert W. Peters and Bonnie M. Peters

To Middleton and Audrey Train from the following transactions;

1. from Mercantile-Safe Deposit and Trust Company, Personal Rep. of the estate of Albanus Phillips, Jr. dated even date herewith and intended for filing,
2. deed dated 6.27.1980 and recorded in PLC 215/303,
3. deed dated 11.20.1979, and recorded PLC 212/474,
4. deed dated 4.20.1976, and recorded PLC 194/340

WHM 3/773

J. Watson Thompson and other, trustees
William R. Hearne and wife

to

10.17.1917

E. Milton Skinner

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D-791, Henry C. Patchett Building
No. 1

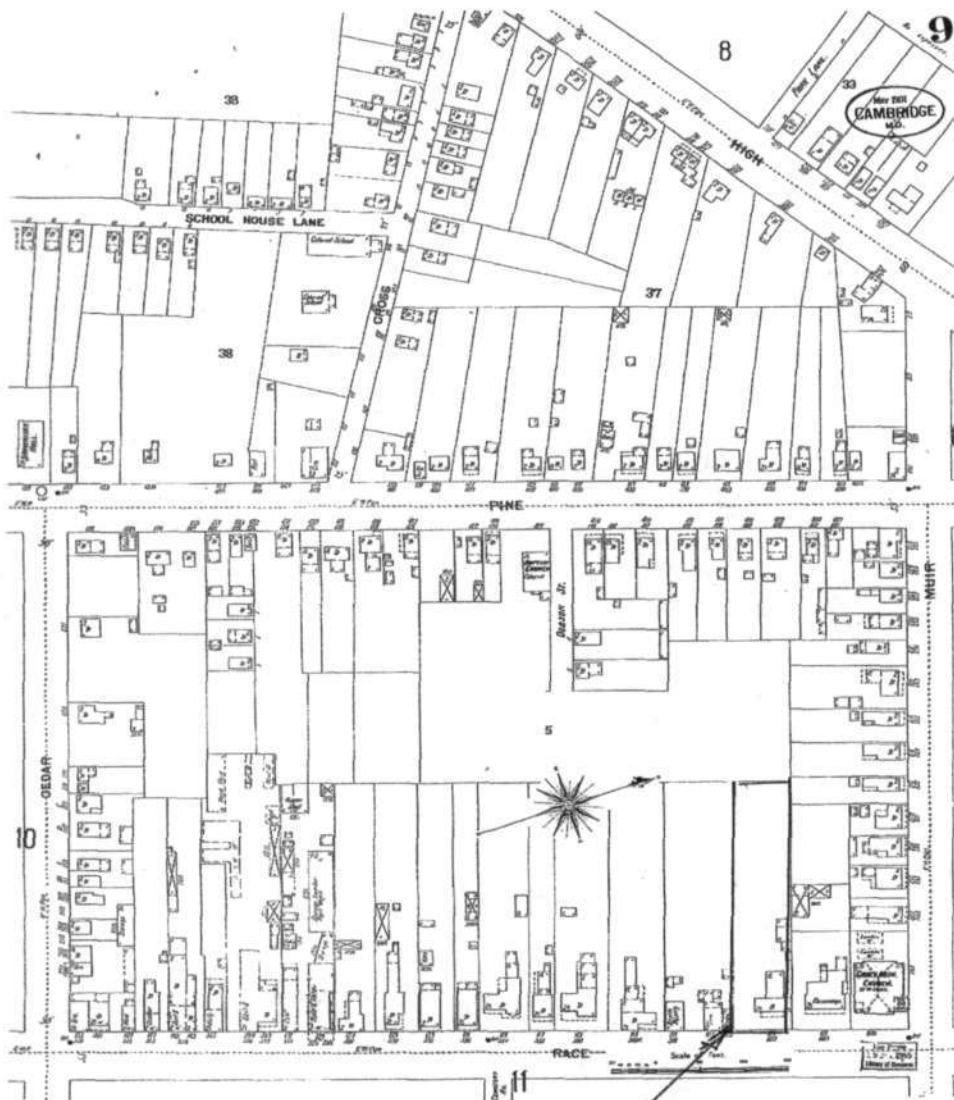
Cambridge MD Quadrangle

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Name Henry C. Patchett Building No. 1
Continuation Sheet

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D-791, Henry C. Patchett Building
No. 1

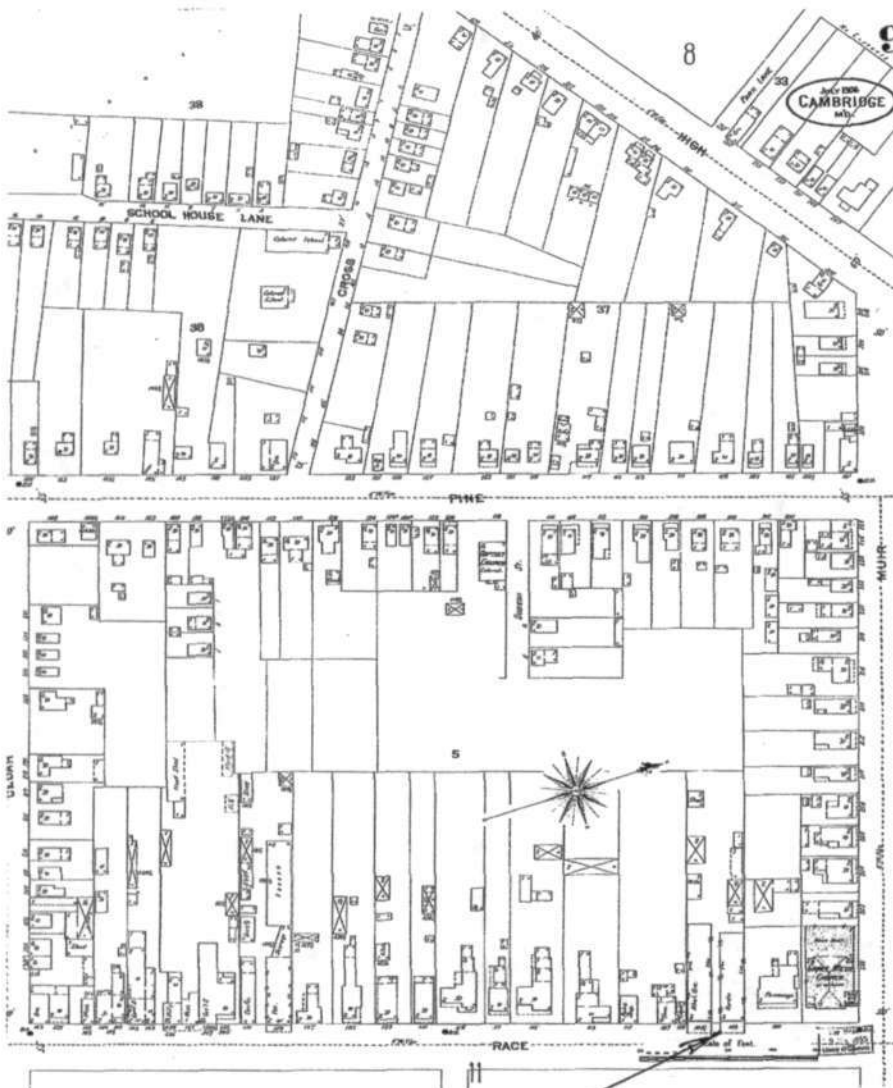
Sanborn Insurance Map, 1901

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Name Henry C. Patchett Building No. 1
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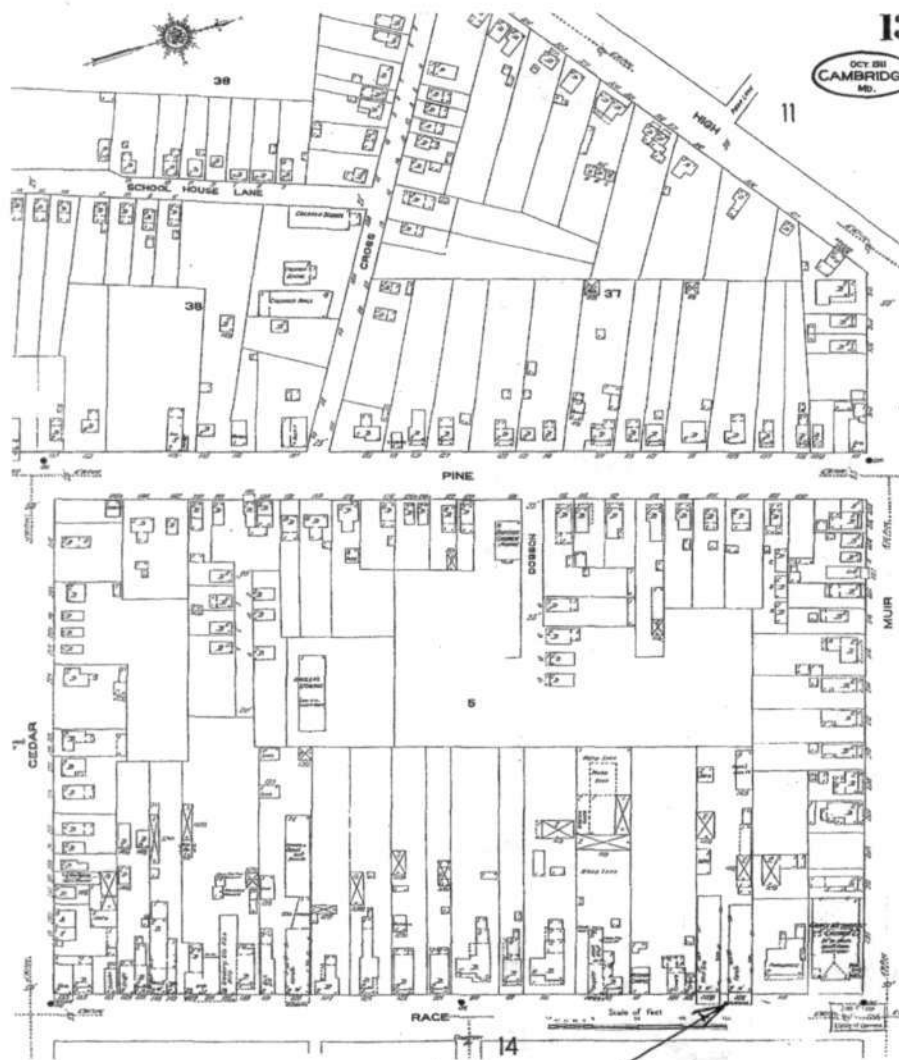
D-791, Henry C. Patchett Building
No. 1
Sanborn Insurance Map, 1906

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Name Henry C. Patchett Building No. 1
Continuation Sheet

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D-791, Henry C. Patchett Building
No. 1

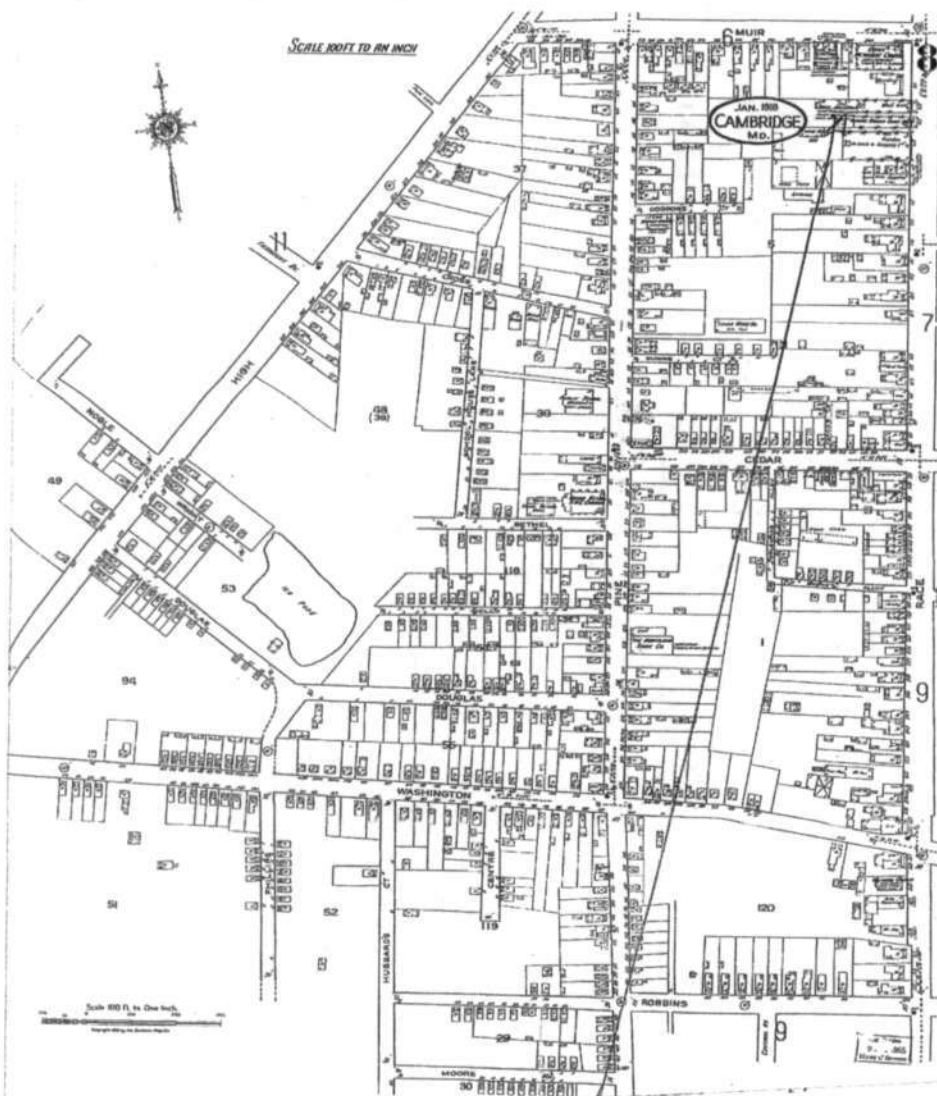
Sanborn Insurance Map. 1911

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Name Henry C. Patchett Building No. 1
Continuation Sheet

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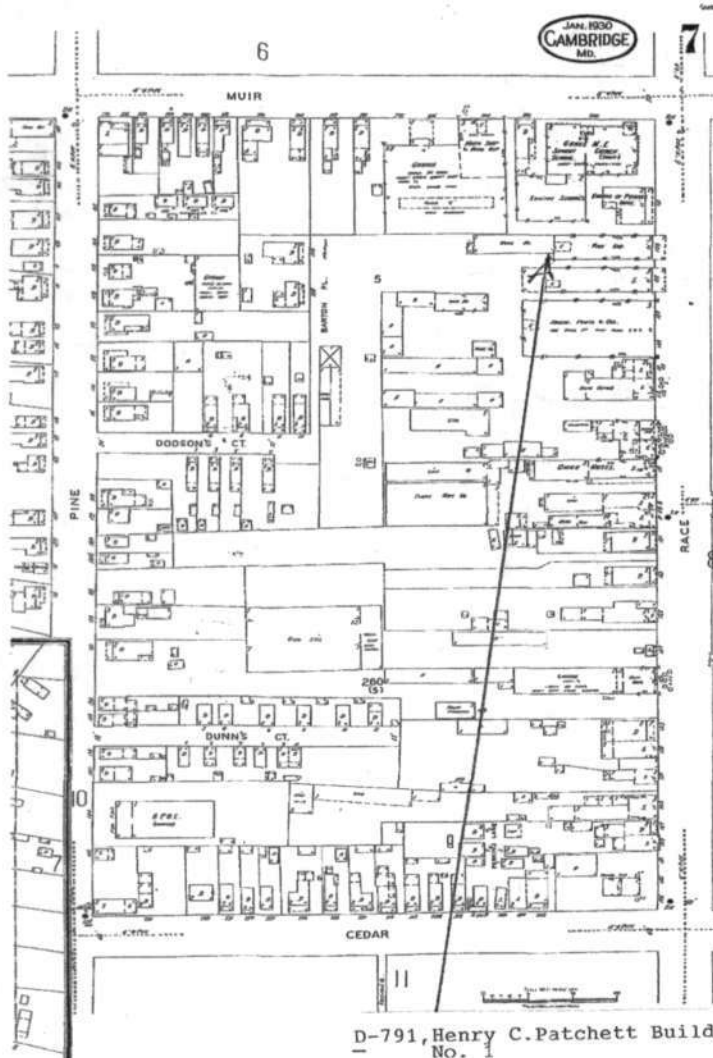
D-791, Henry C. Patchett Building
No. 1
Sanborn Insurance Map, 1918

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Name Henry C. Patchett Building No. 1
Continuation Sheet

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D-791, Henry C. Patchett Building
No. 1

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1930

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Dorchester County Land Record, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse.

Sanborn Insurance Maps, various issues, Dorchester County Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 9,322 square feet

Acreage of historical setting 9,332 square feet

Quadrangle name Cambridge, MD

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	2.24.10
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



D-791

HENRY C. PATTERSON PLAC.
NO. 21
CAMBRIDGE, NORFOLK COUNTY
VIRGINIA

EAST ELEVATION

2. 2010, PAUL B. TOWART,
PITUITARY.

WEL. / M.D. 1757. TAWST

1 of 1